



Illinois State Board of Education

100 North First Street • Springfield, Illinois 62777-0001
www.isbe.net

James T. Meeks
Chairman

Tony Smith, Ph.D.
State Superintendent of Education

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable J.B. Pritzker, Governor
The Honorable John J. Cullerton, Senate President
The Honorable William E. Brady, Senate Minority Leader
The Honorable Michael J. Madigan, Speaker of the House
The Honorable Jim Durkin, House Minority Leader

FROM: Tony Smith, Ph.D. 
State Superintendent of Education

DATE: January 15, 2019

SUBJECT: FY 2018 Career and Technical Education Report

The Illinois State Board of Education respectfully submits this report to the Governor, the General Assembly, and institutions of higher education in order to fulfill the requirements of the Illinois School Code 105 ILCS 435/2e, which states that the following duty shall be exercised: a report, in writing, to the Governor annually.

Specifically, this report provides:

1. A statement of the extent to which Career and Technical Education has been established in Illinois.
2. A statement of the existing condition of Career and Technical Education in Illinois.
3. A statement of suggestions and recommendations with reference to the development of Career and Technical Education in the State.
4. A statement about a Gender Equity Advisory Committee to advise and consult with the State Board of Education and the gender equity coordinator in all aspects relating to ensuring that all students have equal educational opportunities to pursue high-wage, high-skill occupations leading to economic self-sufficiency (Public Act 91-304). In addition, a statement assuring that appropriate Federal funds are made available for services that prepare individuals for non-traditional fields pursuant to the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (Perkins Act, Public Law 109-270).

5. An itemized statement of amounts of money received from Federal and State sources, and the objects and purposes to which the respective items of these several amounts have been devoted.

If you have any questions regarding this report, please contact Amanda Elliott at (217) 782-6510.

cc: Secretary of the Senate
Clerk of the House
Legislative Research Unit
State Government Report Center



Illinois State Board of Education

100 North First Street • Springfield, Illinois 62777-0001
www.isbe.net

James T. Meeks
Chairman

Tony Smith, Ph.D.
State Superintendent of Education

2018 ILLINOIS CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION REPORT

This report is being submitted to comply with Illinois School Code [105 ILCS 435/2e](#), which requires a written Career and Technical Education (CTE) report shall be issued to the Governor annually.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

CTE programs prepare students in Illinois for postsecondary education and careers in high-wage, high-skill, and in-demand occupations in five career clusters: 1) Agricultural Education; 2) Business, Marketing and Computer Education; 3) Family and Consumer Sciences; 4) Health Science Technology; and 5) Technology and Engineering Education. Efforts to provide various CTE career pathways/programs of study, work-based learning opportunities, and Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSO) strengthen students' technical skills and employability, while meeting Illinois Learning Standards and closing academic achievement gaps.

A successful secondary CTE delivery system in Illinois is contingent upon two levels of support: 1) The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) providing state-level leadership, technical assistance, and accountability to Education for Employment (EFE) systems, and 2) EFE systems providing planning and delivery resources to local districts and Area Career Centers. In Illinois, there are 56 EFE systems, including three systems organized by the state agencies that serve secondary students as part of their responsibilities: the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice, the Illinois Department of Human Services Office of Mental Health Services, and the Office of Rehabilitation Services.

In fiscal year 2018, 657 out of 713 Illinois public high schools, excluding regional programs and Area Career Centers, offered CTE programs in the five career clusters. Among the participating schools, 359 high schools provided Agricultural Education; 610 high schools provided Business, Marketing and Computer Education; 536 high schools had programs in Family and Consumer Sciences; 235 schools had Health Science Technology programs; and 563 high schools had Technology and Engineering Education programs. Multiple CTE programs were offered by 622 of these high schools. The percentage of Illinois students enrolled in public secondary school CTE programs increased slightly from 45 percent in FY 2017 to 46 percent in FY 2018, and, the total enrollment increased by 6,012 students. All 1,338,795 public elementary students (grades K-8) were provided career information and awareness opportunities through EFE systems. Nearly 96 percent of students who completed CTE programs graduated from high school, as did 95 percent of CTE special populations students, including those with disabilities, economically disadvantaged, students-as-parents, those preparing for nontraditional fields, displaced homemakers, and limited English proficient students. During the same period, Illinois had an 85 percent four-year graduation rate and an 88 percent five- and six-year graduation rate.

Illinois received \$39,458,917 in federal Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act (Perkins) funding in FY 2018; \$20,428,803 of that was distributed by ISBE to EFE systems for the delivery of high-quality local CTE programs, \$2,514,467 for required federal leadership projects, and \$725,000 for administration, \$15,790,647 was distributed to Illinois Community College Board for postsecondary distribution. Federal leadership projects included the Illinois Association for Career and Technical Education for professional improvement and leadership training, University of Illinois – Project Lead the Way that brought early exposure of engineering and biomedical concepts to high school students, the ILCTE Innovative Curriculum Resources Project for innovative professional development and curriculum resources, and the Illinois Center for Specialized Professional Support for professional development and technical assistance focused on special populations in CTE and emphasizing the recruitment and retention of students preparing for a nontraditional career field.

Federal Perkins funding requires state maintenance of effort (MOE) funds, which totaled \$38,062,100 in FY 2018. Two percent of that (\$830,000) was utilized for state leadership/technical assistance, and the remaining 98 percent (\$37,232,100) was distributed to local and regional agencies for the support of secondary CTE programs and elementary career development programs. Illinois state CTE projects included the Gender Equity Advisory Committee, the Illinois State University – Technical Assistance for Rigorous Academic and Career Technical Education for teacher and administrator CTE professional development, eight Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSO), the Illinois Coordinating Council for CTSOs for state officer and advisor leadership training, the Regional Safe Schools Cooperative Education Program to provide cooperative education classroom and work experience to students at risk of dropping out of school, and innovative online CTE lesson development through the Facilitating Coordination in Agriculture Education and Center for Agricultural and Environmental Research and Training Inc.

ISBE plans to fund and enhance existing federally and state-funded projects in FY 2019, as well as forge into new partnerships throughout the Perkins Reauthorization planning. ISBE's goal has been and continues to be providing equitable access for all Illinois students to high-quality CTE programs that lead to college and career readiness. This completes one piece of ISBE's vision of Illinois becoming a state of whole, healthy children nested in whole, healthy systems supporting communities wherein all citizens are socially and economically secure.

Delivery of Career and Technical Education

Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs in Illinois strengthen students' technical skills and employability, assist in meeting the Illinois Learning Standards, and close achievement gaps. Illinois districts depend on high-quality CTE programs to prepare students for college and career.

Role of the Illinois State Board of Education

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) provides state leadership, technical assistance, and monitoring for CTE programs. ISBE CTE staff provides curriculum guidance for programs, state and federal grant administration, data collection and monitoring, student and teacher association advisement, and intra- and inter-agency liaisons. These activities improve CTE programs, helping to ensure that students are prepared for college and careers.

ISBE serves as the state agency responsible for the administration, operation, and supervision of CTE programs under the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006. ISBE distributes Perkins funds to unit and high school districts, as well as Area Career Centers, through Illinois Education for Employment (EFE) systems. The Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) distributes Perkins funds to the 39 Illinois community college districts, consisting of 48 community colleges.

Role of the Education for Employment Systems

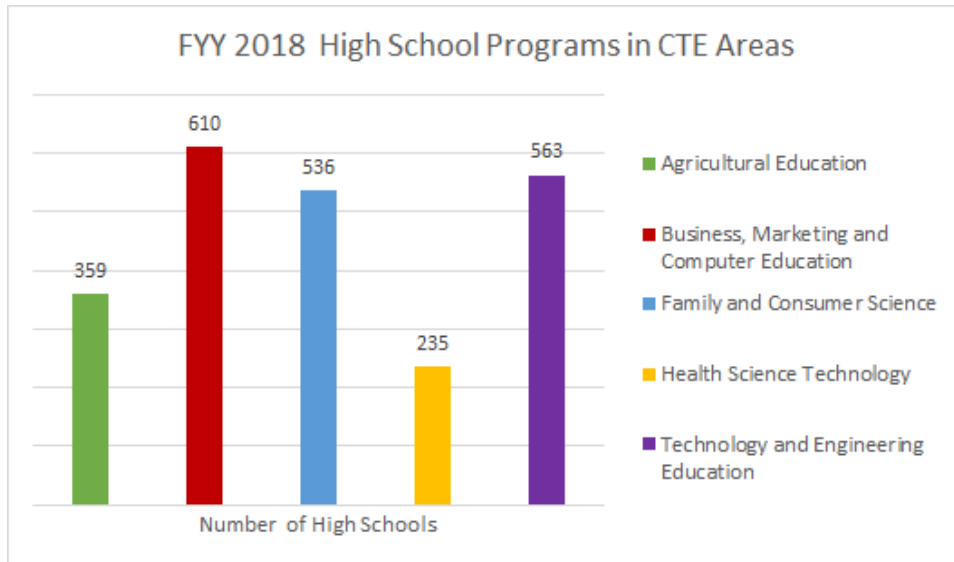
Education for Employment systems support local districts in the cooperative planning and delivery of high-quality Career and Technical Education to students within their systems. EFE systems promote continuous improvement and accessibility of secondary CTE programs. They also provide accountability for the use of both state and federal CTE funds. In addition, the systems work collaboratively with local postsecondary institutions to create programs that enhance both the technical skills and academic development of students, along with articulating programs to postsecondary training, employment, or both.

There are 56 EFE systems operating in the state, including three systems organized by the state agencies that serve secondary students as part of their responsibilities: the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice, the Illinois Department of Human Services Office of Mental Health Services, and the Office of Rehabilitation Services. All Illinois high schools and Area Career Centers are members of an EFE system.

Role of High School CTE Programs

CTE educators provide instruction for careers in high-wage, high-skill, and in-demand occupations. The secondary CTE instructional programs in Illinois are grouped into five broad areas based on the related content. These content areas are Agricultural Education; Business, Marketing and Computer Education; Family and Consumer Sciences; Health Science Technology; and Technology and Engineering Education.

In FY 2018, 657 out of 713 Illinois high schools participated in CTE programs. Among those 657 participating schools, 359 high schools provided Agricultural Education; 610 high schools provided Business, Marketing and Computer Education; 536 high schools had programs in Family and Consumer Sciences; 235 schools had Health Science Technology programs; and 563 high schools had Technology and Engineering Education programs.



FY 2018 High School Programs in CTE Areas

Table 1 below indicates trend data for FY 2016 – FY 2018 CTE programs. Percentage of individual CTE program areas are calculated by total number of CTE programs (n=2,303 for FY 2018).

Table 1: Number of Schools Providing CTE Programs (Excluding Region Programs & Area Career Centers)						
	FY 2018		FY 2017		FY 2016	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Agricultural Education	359	15.6	332	15.5	329	15.2
Business, Marketing and Computer Education	610	26.5	576	27.0	579	27.1
Family and Consumer Science	536	23.3	487	22.8	493	22.7
Health Science Technology	235	10.2	205	9.6	271	10.2
Technology and Engineering Education	563	24.4	536	25.1	538	24.8

Schools Served by Multiple CTE Programs

Many high schools offer more than one program. The graph on the next page indicates the number of high schools that offered multiple programs.

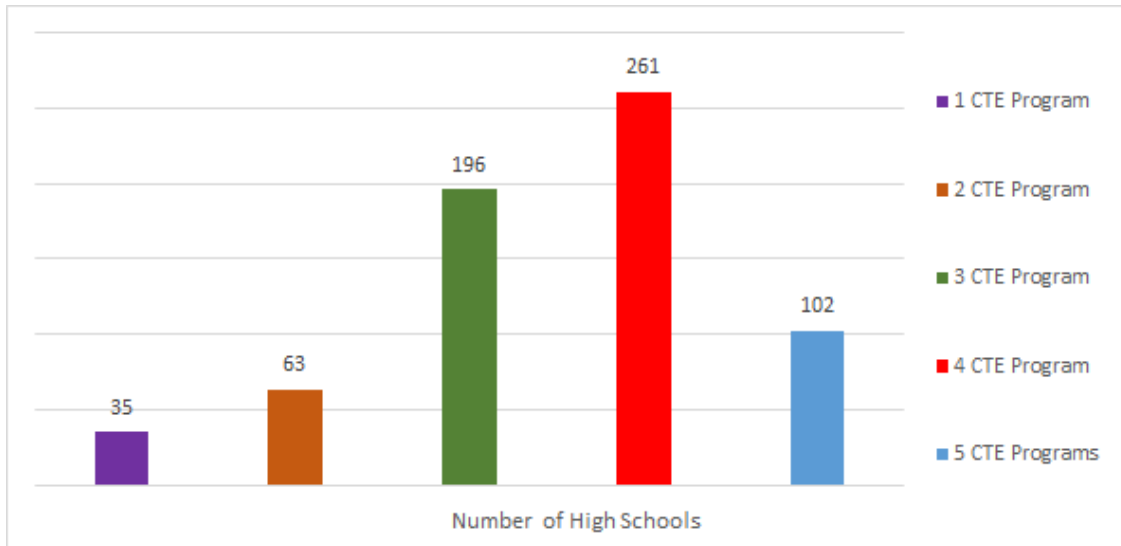


Table 2 below indicates the trend data for FY 2016 – FY 2018 districts served by multiple CTE programs.

	Served 1 CTE Program Area	Served 2 CTE Program Areas	Served 3 CTE Program Areas	Served 4 CTE Program Areas	Served 5 CTE Program Areas
FY18	35	63	196	261	102
FY17	39	75	204	225	87
FY16	53	78	200	221	95

The Condition of Career and Technical Education in Illinois

Forty-six percent of all Illinois students enrolled in public secondary schools (grades 9-12) participated in CTE in FY 2018, which is up 1 percent from FY 2017. The total enrollment in CTE increased from 277,461 high school students in FY 2017 to 283,473 high school students in FY 2018. All elementary districts in the 56 EFE systems are provided the opportunity of career information and awareness activities for their students. This is offered to the total population of 1,338,795 students (grades K-8) in public elementary schools. Table 3 below indicates the number of students served by CTE (as reported in the 2018 Illinois Report Card).

Table 3: Number of Students Served by CTE

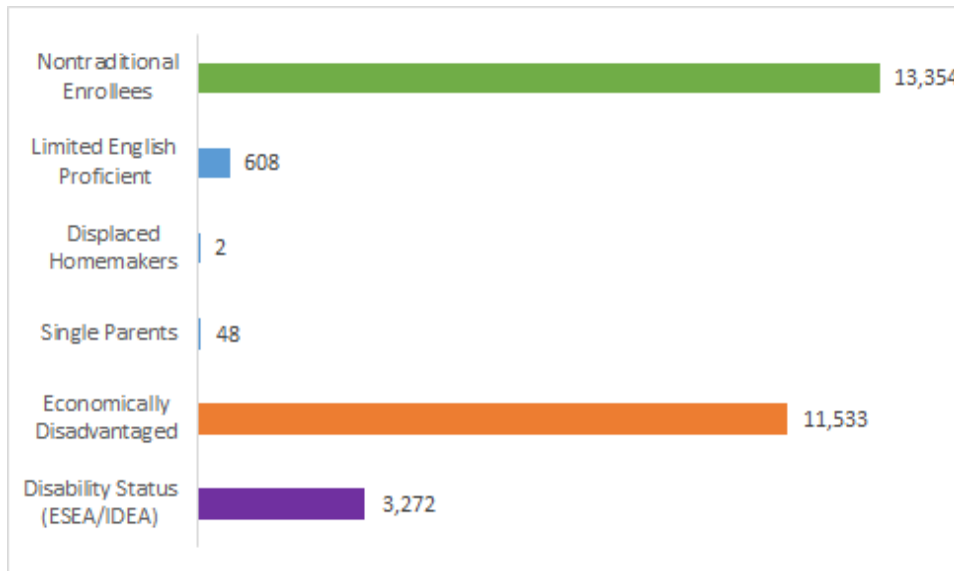
Fiscal Year	Total HS Population Grades 9-12	CTE Participants	Percent
FY2018	616,162	283,473	46%
FY2017	617,485	277,461	45%
FY2016	619,292	280,517	45%
FY2015	619,733	255,544	41%

FY2014	604,277	284,864	47%
FY2013	608,132	241,295	40%

Graduation from High School

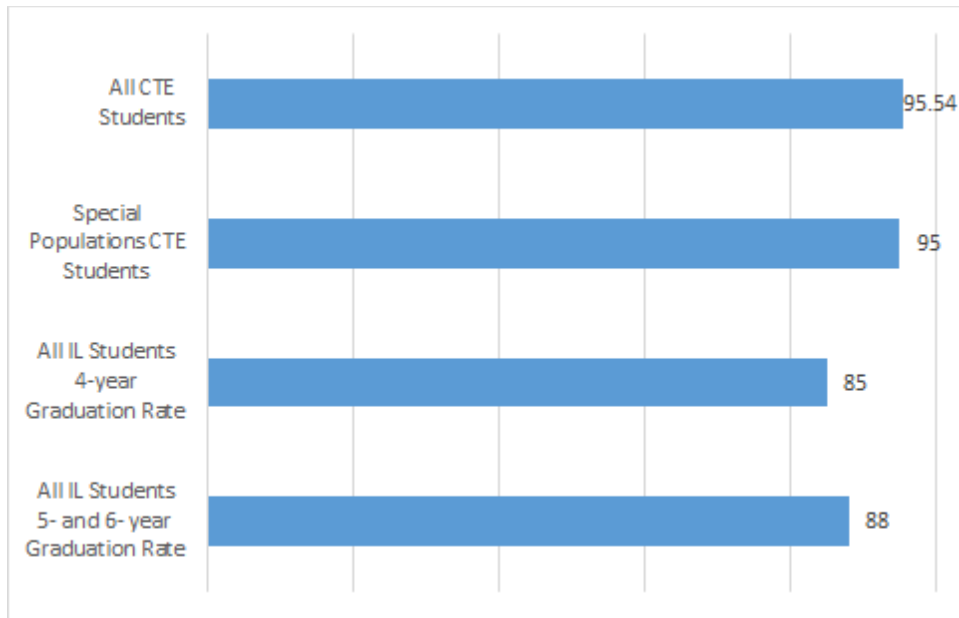
There were 28,606 CTE concentrators among a total of 133,992 Illinois secondary students who graduated in FY 2018 . A CTE concentrator is a secondary student who has earned three or more credits in a single CTE program area (e.g., health care or business services) or two credits in a single CTE program area, but only in those program areas where two credit sequences at the secondary level are recognized by the state and/or its local eligible recipients. See Appendix A – Criteria for Approving CTE Programs in Illinois – in ISBE’s current State Perkins Plan at <https://www.isbe.net/Documents/FY19-Illinois-Perkins-State-Plan-Revised.pdf>.

Several of the 28,606 CTE concentrators who graduated in FY 2018 are classified as special populations by the Perkins Act. These include students with disabilities, economically disadvantaged students, students-as-parents, students preparing for nontraditional fields, displaced homemakers, and limited English proficient students. Some of these students fall under more than one special population category. The following graph shows which special population categories the CTE concentrators who graduated classify as.



As indicated in the graph on the next page, 95.54 percent of the FY 2018 students who completed CTE programs graduated from high school and 95 percent of CTE special population students graduated from high school. During the same period, Illinois had an 85 percent four-year graduation rate and an 88 percent five- and six-year graduation rate.

High School Graduation Rates



Enrollment in Postsecondary Programs

More than 64.34 percent of the CTE concentrators who continue into postsecondary education enrolled in either two-year or four-year institutions, based on National Students Clearinghouse data. See the definition for a CTE concentrator under the previous section – Graduation from High School.

Federal and State Career and Technical Education Funding Sources

Table 4 below indicates the components of the federal and state appropriations in FY 2018.

Table 4: Components of Federal and State Appropriations

	Appropriation	Administration	Distribution	State Leadership/ Technical Assistance
Federal	\$23,668,270	\$725,000	\$20,428,803	\$2,514,467
State	\$38,062,100	\$728,914	\$37,232,100	\$830,000

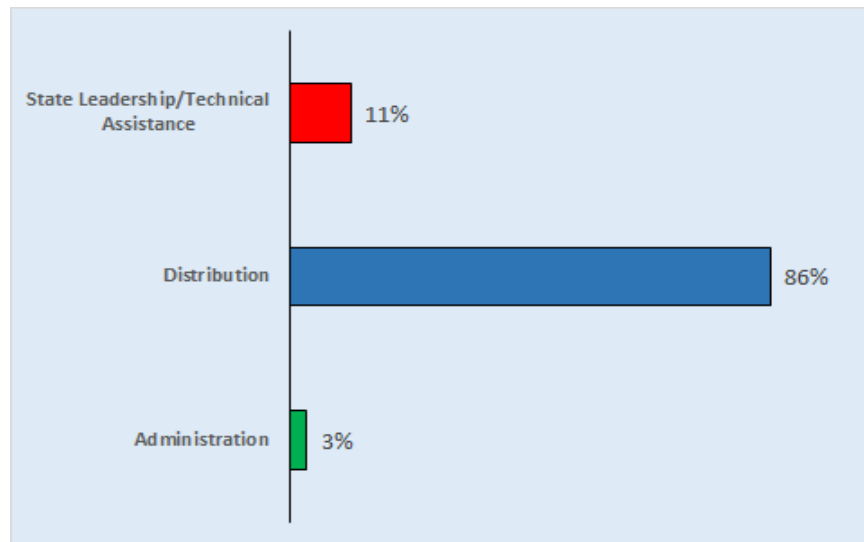
Total	\$62,455,370	\$1,453,914	\$57,356,148	\$3,190,455
--------------	--------------	-------------	--------------	-------------

Federal - Perkins Career and Technical Education Grant

The State of Illinois was allocated \$39,458,917 from the federal Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act (Perkins) to support both secondary and postsecondary CTE programs. ISBE administers Perkins secondary CTE programs, and ICCB administers Perkins postsecondary CTE programs. The director of College and Career Readiness at ISBE is also the State Director of Career and Technical Education.

The appropriation to ISBE for secondary federal Career and Technical Education was \$23,668,270, of which \$20,428,803 was distributed by ISBE to EFE systems for the delivery of high-quality local CTE programs. ISBE utilized \$725,000 for administration and \$2,514,467 for required federal leadership projects. The chart below shows the distribution of these funds on a percentage basis.

FY 2018 CTE Federal Dollars



Illinois Federal Leadership Projects

The *Illinois Association for Career and Technical Education (IACTE)* was funded with \$20,000 to provide professional development opportunities and leadership training for more than 260 secondary and postsecondary CTE teachers. These activities were conducted primarily at the 88th annual IACTE Conference/Professional Development Institute held Feb. 15-16, 2018, in Springfield and during the affiliated professional development conferences.

The *University of Illinois – Project Lead the Way* brings early exposure of engineering and biomedical concepts to students in high school, providing the path to more formal engineering and health occupations preparation in institutions of higher education or the path to technologically oriented jobs. The project provided \$100,000 for training and professional development for those who teach this core group and engineering-oriented courses in Illinois high schools. More than 600 Illinois high school and middle school teachers attended training and/or professional development in FY 2018.

The *Illinois Center for Specialized Professional Support (ICSPS)* at Illinois State University provides \$156,000 (with \$60,000 - \$150,000 of this amount devoted to nontraditional students per Perkins legislation) for statewide professional development and technical assistance to educators for the improvement of instructional services for special populations in CTE, with an emphasis on the recruitment and retention of students preparing for a nontraditional career field. ICSPS provided leadership, support, and guidance to assist ISBE in the Civil Rights Review Process by presenting and providing technical assistance through meetings, a conference call, phone contacts, and a 2018 Connections Conference session. ICSPS held two CTE Counseling Academy preconference sessions at Connections and the Illinois School Counselor Association Conference. These academies showcased the benefits of CTE careers, community college opportunities, and strategies to support students interested in CTE/STEM occupations (Nontraditional Careers). Eighty-six individuals from secondary and postsecondary programs participated. The content included: what is CTE, opportunities within CTE, strategies to support Nontraditional Occupations (NTO) students interested in CTE, and how to promote CTE to parents. Speakers included representatives from ISBE, ICCB, Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC), Northern Illinois University (NIU), and National Alliance for Partnerships in Equity (NAPE). ICSPS brought in NAPE to present a Nontraditional Occupations Summit, as well as the culminating activity to the CTE Counseling Academy in June 2018. The project developed publications for students pursuing nontraditional occupations for their gender, as well as an NTO-specific website for Illinois. In FY 2019, the website will be found at <https://illinoisnto.com/> and will highlight what is an NTO and showcase effective practices within the state. Finally, ICSPS hosted a webinar on How to Make Websites Accessible. In addition, ICSPS will create several on-demand videos for the educational system. The videos developed will include: Alt Text -Short Overview, Creating Accessible PowerPoint Update for the Secondary System, and Introduction to Video Requirements – Short Overview. Web resources for accessibility can be found at <https://icsps.illinoisstate.edu/web-accessibility-reources/>. All resources developed by ICSPS can be found at <https://icsps.illinoisstate.edu/>.

The *ILCTE Innovative Curriculum Resources Project* was funded with \$635,000 focused on providing current, relevant, and innovative professional development and quality curriculum and instructional improvement resources to secondary CTE teachers and programs, as well as career guidance and school counselors. ILCTE provided support and technical assistance for expanding high-quality e-learning, professional development to CTE professionals and career/school counselors, as well as maintaining and updating teaching tools and resources on the project website (www.ilcte.org). Through the project's network of support and professional development, 20 professional development workshops were offered over 34 days throughout summer 2018 and reached 362 CTE professionals and career/school counselors. Sessions included but were not limited to 3D Literacy, Beginning/Advanced Coding, Certiport Certification Training, Culinary Arts Bootcamps, online curriculum resources, Geometry in Construction, Summer Academy, and Youth Mental Health/First Aid. ILCTE also networked, collaborated, and provided project information at the 2018 IACTE and Connections Conferences.

State Career and Technical Education Funds

The state appropriation for secondary Career and Technical Education for FY 2018 was \$38,062,100. This amount has remained approximately the same since FY 2004 due to the MOE requirement. The Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006, Title III, Part A, Section 311 (b), contains an MOE provision that requires equal or greater state expenditures for CTE programs for the second fiscal year preceding the fiscal year for which the determination is made.

ISBE distributes a total of \$37,232,100 of its state appropriation to local and regional agencies for the support of secondary CTE programs and elementary career development programs. The remaining funds are used for state leadership grants. The state line item can only be used for grants, as no administrative expenditures are allowed.

The state appropriation includes:

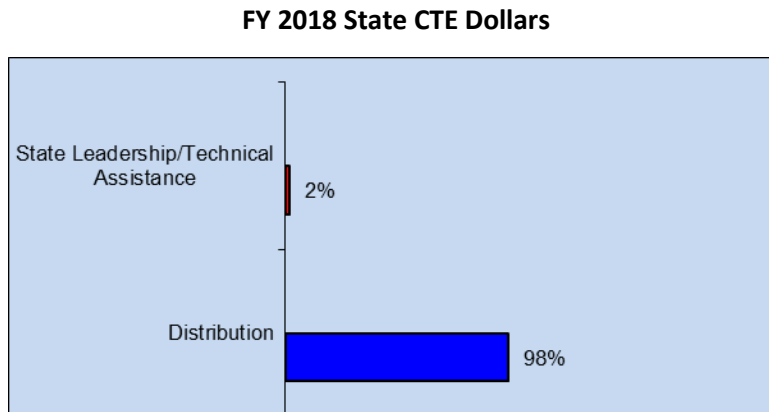
- Secondary CTE Programs: \$34,607,460
- Elementary Career Development Program: \$1,324,639
- Regional Safe Schools Cooperative Education Program: \$1,100,001
- Career and Technical Student Organizations: \$200,000

State leadership projects in the amount of \$830,000 include:

- Technical Assistance and Professional Development through Illinois State University – Technical Assistance for Rigorous Academic and Career Technical Education Project: \$330,000
- Curriculum Development through Facilitating Coordination in Agriculture Education and Center for Agricultural and Environmental Research and Training Inc.: \$500,000

The graph below shows the distribution of these funds on a percentage basis:

- State Leadership/Technical Assistance: 2% (\$830,000)
- Distribution to local and regional agencies: 98% (\$37,232,100)



Illinois State CTE Projects

The *Gender Equity Advisory Committee (GEAC)* functions to advise and consult with ISBE to ensure that all students have equal educational opportunities to pursue high-wage, high-skill occupations leading to economic self-sufficiency (Public Act 91-304). The GEAC met in February and October. Dedicated professionals shared knowledge and information regarding initiatives in equity work across the state, including collaborations on science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) equity in the classroom, career exploration events, conferences, and trainings. The committee discussed CTE state and national trend data and reported on instructional practices across the state for improving CTE participation of nontraditional and other special populations defined by Perkins legislation.

The *Illinois State University – Technical Assistance for Rigorous Academic and Career Technical Education Project* assists ISBE in implementing statewide teacher and administrator professional development focused mainly on high-quality reform with an emphasis on Career and Technical Education content areas. This project expended \$330,000 in funds to coordinate the Connections Conference and two summer teacher workshops focused on Math and Literacy in CTE.

The Connections Conference was held at the Tinley Park Convention Center on March 7-8, 2018. The conference focused on new and innovative practices in both core academic and CTE content areas. It featured administrators, teachers, counselors, and other educators from Illinois sharing innovative programs and strategies that have been successful in Illinois schools. The conference was attended by 629, of which 132 were presenters. A total of 124 professional development sessions were offered to middle school/junior high, secondary, and postsecondary educators and counselors.

The overall conference evaluations were positive with an overall score of 4.51 out of a possible 5.00. More than 80 teachers attended the summer Math and Literacy in CTE workshops in Collinsville, Springfield, Moline, and Normal. More than 700 educators participated in the overall project professional development activities.

The *Facilitating Coordination in Agriculture Education (FCAE) and Center for Agricultural and Environmental Research and Training Inc. (CAERT)* partnered with ISBE to develop, update, and disseminate online CTE curriculum in all content areas. The goal each year is to develop more than 200 online CTE curriculum lessons and supplemental materials incorporating the Illinois Learning Standards for math, English language arts, and science. The project received \$500,000 to accomplish this goal. In FY 2018, 504 new CTE lessons, teacher PowerPoint presentations, and accompanying student content units (E-units) were developed for CTE educator use. Business and industry professionals and CTE educators contribute to the creation of the lessons and supporting resources. In addition, three Ag courses were offered through the Illinois Virtual School using new enhanced online curriculum during FY 2018, with scholarship opportunities for a select number of qualified students. FCAE and CAERT will continue to collaborate with a new curriculum project to develop additional innovative lessons and resources in FY 2019.

Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSO) are co-curricular entities that provide secondary students with competitive-based activities that expand classroom instruction to strengthen academic and technical skills. These competitive events develop leadership qualities in students. Students can also gain industry-related experience. In addition, CTSOs provide state and national conferences, which foster student-employer networking, workplace, and leadership skill development. In FY 2018, 43,837 students were members of CTSOs. The CTSO allocations are determined by the number of CTSO members that met the ISBE funding criteria of: 1) enrolled in a class in an ISBE-approved CTE program, 2) chapter supervised by a teacher in that CTE program, and 3) membership form signed by school administrator.

The *Illinois Coordinating Council for Career and Technical Student Organizations (ICCCTSO)* is made up of the state advisers, executive directors, and presidents of the eight secondary CTSOs that are listed above. The ICCCTSO received \$39,141 to coordinate the activities of the individual career and technical student organizations. A three-day leadership conference was held July 25-27, 2018, in Springfield. The conference provided training for CTSO state officers and advisers. The conference also provided direction in various CTE initiatives. Table 5 below indicates the grant distribution funding for state-approved CTSOs and ICCCTSO.

Table 5: CTSO Funding Distribution

Illinois Association of DECA	\$17,797
Illinois Association of Family Career and Community Leaders Association	\$20,617
Business Professionals of America Illinois Association	\$16,437
Illinois Association of Skills USA	\$17,627
Technology Student Association	\$15,555
Illinois Association of Health Occupations Students of America	\$17,449
Illinois Future Business Leaders of America	\$16,613
Illinois Association FFA	\$38,764
Illinois Coordinating Council for CTSOs	\$39,141
Total	\$200,000

Regional Safe Schools Cooperative Education Program (RSSCEP) provides annual grant awards for each Regional Office of Education (ROE), with a base of \$35,000 plus additional funding for Americans with Disability Act and low-income count. Subpart K (254.110-254.1198) of the Illinois Administrative Code (Title 23) administrative rules governing vocational education authorizes ISBE to provide grants to school districts to develop career-related classroom instruction and cooperative work experience for students who are currently enrolled full time in the regular school program but are at risk of dropping out of school. The purpose of the RSSCEP is to provide alternative cooperative education for suspended or expelled youth due to gross misconduct who are 16 years or older and are administratively transferred to a Regional Safe School Program. The program is designed to motivate and encourage students to complete high school while enabling them to make a successful transition to postsecondary education, employment, or other career advancement opportunities. Twenty-four ROEs applied for the RSSCEP grants in FY 2018.

Future developments in Career and Technical Education

Recommendations and Activities for Fiscal Year 2019

On July 31, 2018, the President signed the *Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act* (referred to as Perkins V). In response, ISBE along with ICCB and other CTE stakeholders will work together to develop a State Perkins V Transition Plan. The Governor will have 30 days to review the plan, which is due April 2019. With input from the Governor, CTE stakeholders, and the public, ISBE and ICCB will also write a new State Perkins V Plan, containing all necessary components outlined in the federal Perkins V Act, during FY 2019 and FY 2020. The Governor will have 30 days to review the State Perkins V Plan, which is due April 2020.

The new State Perkins V Plan must align with both the Illinois Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Plan and the Illinois Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Unified State Plan. There is a core team

who will be writing the state plan, which includes ISBE, ICCB, Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) and Illinois Workforce Board Chairman. During this process, Illinois will develop a shared vision for CTE, update approval processes for high-quality CTE programs and programs of study that span from secondary through postsecondary, leverage work-based learning opportunities through business and industry partnerships, and expand career exploration opportunities prior to and during secondary education. Perkins V ensures collaboration between the state and CTE stakeholders, provides greater flexibility in use of funds, emphasizes innovation, and ensures data-driven decisions and accountability through measures such as public facing data will be disaggregated by special populations and the use of a comprehensive local needs assessment to inform local CTE application.

Illinois' WIOA Unified State Plan was approved by the U.S. departments of Labor and Education in 2016. The Act also requires a modification in 2020. Illinois' ESSA Plan was approved by the U.S. Department of Education on Aug. 30, 2017, containing data indicators for P-12 education including college- and career-readiness indicators (CCRI). Illinois' Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness (PWR) Act was signed into law on July 29, 2016, containing four strategies to help students prepare for postsecondary and career opportunities. The strategies are: offering a Postsecondary and Career Expectations framework, piloting competency-based education, supporting students to avoid remediation in college through Transitional Math instruction during the senior year, and creating a new system for school districts to award College and Career Pathways Endorsements (CCPE) on high school diplomas. The Illinois 60 by 2025 Network is an ever-emerging network of communities in Illinois that are committed to the goal of ensuring that 60 percent of all adults have a college or career credential by 2025. By leveraging elements of the PWR Act, the 60 by 25 Network, and ESSA's CCRI support and accountability measures, Illinois can improve college and career readiness for all residents. The CTE state plan will be aligned to all college and career pathway initiatives in Illinois.

ISBE plans to fund and enhance existing federally and state-funded projects in FY 2019, as well as forge new partnerships. ISBE's goal has and will continue to be providing equitable access for all Illinois P-12 students to high-quality CTE programs that lead to college and career readiness. This completes one piece of ISBE's vision of Illinois becoming a state of whole, healthy children nested in whole, healthy systems supporting communities wherein all citizens are socially and economically secure.

In summary, CTE programs in Illinois provide instruction for careers in high-wage, high-skill, and in-demand occupations in Agricultural Education; Business, Marketing and Computer Education; Family and Consumer Sciences; Health Science Technology; and Technology and Engineering Education. In FY 2019, Family and Consumer Sciences programs will fall under Human and Public Services to align with the federal career clusters.

CTE programs continue to strengthen students' technical skills and employability; articulate transitions to postsecondary training programs, employment, or both; assist in meeting the Illinois Learning Standards; and close achievement gaps. These programs are instrumental in supporting local districts to ensure student college- and career-readiness success and promote continuous improvement. The new collaboration with secondary, post-secondary and business and industry will transform career and technical education in the state.